

## Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 IO-03 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-03 FRB-01 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-01

OPIC-02 SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-01 SIL-01 OMB-01 SAM-01

NIC-01 PM-03 H-01 L-02 NSC-07 PA-01 PRS-01 SS-14

USIA-04 DRC-01 /083 W

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R 081420Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 716

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION NATO

CINCLANT NORFOLK VA

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

USMISSION USUN

DIA WASHDC

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, PINT, PO

SUBJ: ONE DAY'S LABOR FOR THE NATION

REF: LISBON 4277 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: PRIME MINISTER'S APPEAL TO THE NATION TO DEMONSTRATE SOLIDARITY WITH ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT (AFM) AND TO CELEBRATE VICTORY OVER FORCES OF REACTION BY MAKING SUNDAY OCTOBER 6 A NATIONAL DAY OF LABOR HAS MET WITH APPARENT ALTHOUGH NOT UNIVERSAL SUCCESS. "VOLUNTARY" ADHERENCE TO CAMPAIGN THROUGHOUT PORTUGAL BEING CITED IN PRESS AS NATION'S RESPONSE TO FEARS THAT COUNTRY STANDS ON BRINK OF ECONOMIC CHAOS. END SUMMARY

1. PRIME MINISTER VASCO GONCALVES, IN SPEECH TO COUNTRY LATE EVENING SEPTEMBER 29, INFORMED NATION OF POLITICAL CRISIS THROUGH WHICH IT HAD JUST PASSED. TO COMMEMORATE VICTORY ACHIEVED OVER FORCES OF REACTION, PM CALLED ON ALL PORTUGUESE TO VOLUNTEER TO MAKE SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, A NATIONAL DAY OF LABOR. (SATURDAY OCT 5 IS A NATIONAL HOLIDAY, COMMEMORATING ESTABLISHMENT IN 1910 OF PORTUGUESE REPUBLIC.)

2. PRIME MINISTER'S CALL WAS EXPANDED ON AND AMPLIFIED THROUGHOUT INTERVENING WEEK, WITH PCP AND PCP-DOMINATED ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS PORTUGUESE DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT, THE INTERSINDICAL AND VARIOUS INDIVIDUAL SYNDICATES TAKING THE LEAD IN MOBILIZING THEIR FORCES IN BEHALF OF "VOLUNTARY" PARTICIPATION. WE UNDERSTAND THAT IN A LEAST ONE GOVERNMENT MINISTRY EMPLOYEES WERE ENCOURAGED TO VOLUNTEER BY SIGNING LISTS.

3. ACCUSATIONS MADE BY GENERAL SPINOLA IN COURSE OF SEP 30 RESIGNATION SPEECH (THAT PORTUGAL STOOD ON BRINK OF CHAOS AND ANARCHY) SERVED TO PROVIDE CAMPAIGN'S ORGANIZERS WITH ADDED INCENTIVE. MINISTRY OF LABOR COMMUNIQUE PUBLISHED IN PORTUGUESE NEWSPAPERS OCTOBER 3 EMPHASIZED VOLUNTARY NATURE OF CAMPAIGN, WHOSE OBJECTIVE WAS TO SIGNIFY "VICTORY OVER REACTION, DEMONSTRATING THAT THE PORTUGUESE PEOPLE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WISH NEITHER ECONOMIC CHAOS NOR ANARCHY, BUT ABOVE ALL THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS."

4. PRIME MINISTER IN HIS SPEECH EMPHASIZED THAT PROCEEDS WERE TO GO TO THOSE WHO WORKED, AND THAT NATION WOULD BENEFIT FROM INCREASED GNP. IN THIS THE "ONE DAY' LABOR" CAMPAIGN DIFFERED FROM ONGOING CAMPAIGN BY WORKERS OF NUMEROUS ENTERPRISES TO DONATE THE FRUIT OF ONE DAY'S LABOR TO THE COUNTRY.

THIS CAMPAIGN, WHICH SPRANG UP IN DAYS FOLLOWING APRIL 25 REVOLUTION, HAD BROUGHT IN OVER \$360,000 IN CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GOVERNMENT BY BEGINNING OF OCTOBER. ALTHOUGH GOVERNMENT SPOKESMEN ECHOED THAT THERE WAS NO NEED FOR WORKERS TO CONTRIBUTE THEIR SALARIES FOR DAY, THERE WERE INCREASING CALLS DURING WEEK TO GIVE PROCEEDS TO GOVERNMENT, POSSIBLY FOR REDISTRIBUTION TO NEEDY. GOP RECOGNIZED RIGHT OF UNIONS TO RECEIVE EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THEIR OWN PARTICULAR PURPOSES AND ENCOURAGED VOLUNTARY CIVIC EFFORTS, ESPECIALLY CLEANING UP PUBLIC AREAS.

5. BY END OF WEEK GOP HAD MANAGED TO ELICIT SANCTION FOR ONE SUNDAY'S LABOR FROM CATHOLIC CHURCH AS WELL. ON OCT 5 PRESS CARRIED TEXT OF BRIEF COMMUNIQUE FROM PORTUGUESE EPISCOPATE WHICH NOTED ONE-TIME-ONLY NATURE OF PROPOSAL AND STATED THAT CATHOLICS COULD, THEREFORE, IN GOOD CONSCIENCE PARTICIPATE IN CAMPAIGN (DOING EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN COMMUNION NEVERTHELESS).

6. AT LEAST INSOFAR AS LISBON AREA CONCERNED WEEKEND OF OCT 5-6 PASSED ACCORDING TO PLAN. SATURDAY WAS OBSERVED AS USUAL NATIONAL HOLIDAY WITH NO AFTERNOON NEWSPAPERS PUBLISHED. ALL DAILY NEWSPAPERS PUBLISHED ON SUNDAY (SUNDAY EDITIONS WERE DISCONTINUED IN MAY THIS YEAR). LISBON COMMERCIAL LIFE ON SUNDAY APPEARED EXCEPTIONALLY LIVELY. EMBOFFS WHO OBSERVED BEACHES THAT DAY (WHICH NORMALLY ARE PACKED) NOTED THEY WERE FOR MOST PART DESERTED. VOLUNTEERS WERE IN EVIDENCE AT MAJOR LISBON MONUMENTS, CLEANING AWAY ACCUMULATION OF POLITICAL SLOGANS AND POSTERS THAT HAVE BUILD UP STEADILY OVER MONTHS SINCE APRIL 25, AND CLEANING STREETS AND OTHER PUBLIC AREAS.

7. PUBLIC ATTITUDES IN OPORTO, ACCORDING TO AMCONSUL  
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THERE, DIFFERED FROM THOSE OBSERVED IN LISBON. DEGREE OF PRESSURE APPLIED TO TURN PEOPLE OUT "SPONTANEOUSLY" WAS GREATER, AND ACTUAL TURNOUT WAS SMALLER THAN IN LISBON. WHILE OPORTO NEWSPAPERS DID PUBLISH SUNDAY AND STORES WERE OPEN, BUSINESS VOLUME WAS NOT GREAT. PEOPLE CHOSE TO STAY AT HOME RATHER THAN SHOP OR TURN OUT EN MASSE FOR STREET CLEANING BRIGADES. A POSSIBLE EXPLANATION FOR THIS LESSER ENTHUSIASM IN THE NORTH MAY LIE IN THE FACT THAT MANY URBAN RESIDENTS THERE RETAIN STRONG TIES TO THE COUNTRYSIDE. THE FALL IS THE HARVEST SEASON, AND A DAY'S LABOR IN THE CITY MEANS ONE WEEKEND FEWER TO SPEND WITH RELATIVES GATHERING IN THE HARVEST.

8. COMMENT: WHILE NO WAY EXISTS TO DETERMINE EXACT DEGREE TO WHICH "VOLUNTARY" EFFORTS WERE GENUINE OR THE PRODUCT OF

PRESSURE, IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT CAMPAIGN DID ENJOY A LARGE MEASURE OF POPULAR SUPPORT. ENTHUSIASM FOR THE PROJECT IN SOME CASES MAY HAVE BEEN GRUDGING (IT IS DOUBTFUL, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT PORTUGUESE CLERGY APPRECIATED USING SUNDAY AS DAY OF LABOR). IT ALSO SEEMS CLEAR THAT THE CAMPAIGN WAS LESS POPULAR IN THE NORTH THAN IN THE LISBON AREA. IN GENERAL, HOWEVER, THE CAMPAIGN DID SUCCEED IN DEMONSTRATING WHAT THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT AND ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT WISHED IT TO -- THAT THE CURRENT REGIME DOES ENJOY THE SUPPORT OF THE PORTUGUESE PUBLIC, AND THAT THE PUBLIC IS PREPARED (ALTHOUGH WITHIN LIMITS) TO ACCEPT THE NEED TO WORK HARDER AND IN MORE DISCIPLINED FASHION IN THE NATION'S INTEREST.

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